

City of Gresham
Coalition of Neighborhood Associations
November 10, 2009
Springwater Trail Room, Gresham City Hall

as approved
12/8/2009

Meeting Minutes

NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES	NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES
ASERT	<i>John Vandermosten</i>	Northeast	<i>NOT ACTIVE</i>
Centennial		North Gresham	<i>NOT ACTIVE</i>
Central City		Northwest	<i>Bill Humbert</i>
Gresham Butte	<i>Bruce Hoyt</i>	Gresham Pleasant Valley	
Hollybrook	<i>NOT ACTIVE</i>	Powell Valley	<i>Janet Armstrong</i>
Kelly Creek	<i>Carol Rulla, Charles Teem</i>	Rockwood	<i>John Bildsoe, Catherine Nicewood</i>
Mt. Hood	<i>Anita Daily</i>	Southwest	<i>Suzan Wells</i>
North Central	<i>Maggie Anderson</i>	Wilkes-East	<i>Marc Thornsby, Curtis Duval</i>
Guests:	<i>Aubrey Lindstrom, Greg Olson, Harrison Braaksma, Katinka Walker, Andy Gzeroff, Hason Seiwald, Roger Meyer, Katherine Kelly, John Dorst, Cathy Harrington, Shelley Marchesi, Rodger Moore, Katie Such, Jill Riddle, Nicole Cousino</i>		

WELCOME

The meeting was called to order by Carol Rulla, Coalition President, at 7:00 pm.

Quorum: Ten (10) neighborhood associations were represented with elected board members; constituting a quorum.

Approval of Minutes: John Bildsoe moved to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2009. Seconded. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Aubrey Lindstrom, City of Gresham-AmeriCorps Community Outreach Assistant: Aubrey is focusing on recycling and waste water issues for property owners with apartment complexes. Contact Aubrey for more information or to have her attend a neighborhood meeting. Aubrey can be reached by phone (503) 618-2206 or via email at Aubrey.Lindstrom@GreshamOregon.gov.

PRESENTATIONS

Councilor Paul Warr-King – Youth Advisory Council. This group will be an offshoot of the Citizens Involvement Committee. Students introduced themselves. They are working to develop a Youth Advisory Council for Gresham. The first meeting was in Oct. where they decided to focus on several issues such as teen homelessness and to undertake a survey of youth issues. Their goals are (1) connection of youth to government, (2) advise City Council on issues relating to youth and (3) participating in neighborhood associations. The group will meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at City Hall. Carol Rulla asked each to identify which neighborhood they live in. At their next meeting, they will prioritize these issues and work on defining what homelessness with teens/youth really means.

John Dorst / Katherine Kelly – Department of Transportation. John Dorst opened the discussion by saying he wants to hear about transportation issues in the neighborhoods. Kane Rd. will have a major impact on the area. Three neighborhoods were involved in early meetings to discuss impacts. There are a number of transportation projects coming up such as Hogan Rd. from Stark to Glisan and Stark St. 190th to 197th. Some goals are to provide information on who is doing the construction with contact phone numbers, etc. The Sandy to Glisan project, on 181st was designed to help smooth traffic flow and optimize the functionality of the adaptive signal project.

Bicycle Transportation Plan – Katherine Kelly talked about the Wayfinding signs prototype which was shown to the group. Greg Olson presented information on the bicycle/pedestrian mapping and hopes to get NA's

involved in identifying sites for bike routes. He talked about a possible plan to designate a time each year when some Gresham streets are closed to only bicycles and pedestrians as a way to get neighborhood residents together. They are working on a new transportation website with the Bike/Ped Map available on the web soon. Currently, the best map is the Metro Bike map for getting people around. A good website is <http://www.mapmyrun.com>. John Dorst talked about linking trails with roads for accessibility. Funding for the signage came from a Metro/Regional grant and will be part of the GIS system. It was suggested that the Bicycle Transportation Plan group let Carol Rulla know when maps are ready and she'll forward a copy of the map out to the NA's. The projected timeframe is mid-2010 and there will be an Open House to explain the plan. They are willing to go to neighborhood or other group meetings to discuss transportation projects.

Housing Authority of Portland (HAP). Councilor David Widmark introduced the next topic from the Housing Authority of Portland of which he has been a member for about 9 months. Gresham has two slots on the board. Earlier the group made a presentation to the City Council and the Community Development Housing Committee. Katie Such is the Deputy Executive Director serving Gresham and Multnomah County. She said how much they have appreciated having Councilor Widmark on the board. Developing a relationship with NA's is of high interest. HAP is a public agency with an independent board of commissioners. HAP serves almost 15,000 low income families and individuals and has been in business over 60 years.

Jill Riddle - Rental program (Section 8 vouchers). All funds come to HAP through HUD. They distribute about \$56M per year to private landlords and serve about 8000, many of whom are in Gresham. The wait is approximately 2-3 years to get a voucher and get into the program. They do a lottery of potential applicants and a basic background check. At least one person in the household must be a citizen or here legally. HAP is promoting self-sufficiency to help people move off the program permanently.

Rodger Moore - Real Estate Operations. Two different departments within REO which are affordable housing and the public housing portfolio (direct services by HAP). Rodger provided a handout showing the properties. At one time, HAP owned about 160 single family homes, throughout Multnomah County, which have been difficult to manage. HAP is currently in the process of selling those 160 homes and looking to reinvest in multi-family housing. They have a philosophy of safe affordable housing (livability) and to provide a place where people can feel safe at an affordable price. Resident Service Coordinators link with applicants on lease enforcement which can include eviction. The Gresham Police Department is involved in the Gresham Landlord Forum to help educate landlords about how to enforce leases. Coalition members were encouraged to talk with the Gresham Police about concerns.

Nicole Cousino, City of Gresham – Sustainability Plan. AmeriCorps member who will be here until the middle of August. She is assisting in the Dept. of Environmental Services on sustainability policy. City is developing a sustainability plan. Residents can be involved in development of the plan by providing guidance on a more sustainable Gresham. Work is being done on revising the sustainability section of the City's website. Is willing to come and talk to NA's and could come back to the Coalition in January with a more detailed presentation.

NEIGHBORHOOD & CITY NEWS & REPORTS

- **Cathy Harrington, City of Gresham** – November 18th is deadline to get NA articles and winter meeting dates to Lina Sizmin for Gresham newspaper. Encouraged NA's to provide content for their city website landing pages. Cathy's department is working on community garden efforts. Will have things more together by about February, 2010 for upcoming rental of garden spaces. Not sure of availability of spaces.
- **Rockwood NA** – New church, Central Santa Cruz, in Rockwood on Burnside and Stark.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10pm.

Minutes submitted by: Anita Daily, GCNA Secretary-Treasurer.

Next meeting: Tuesday, December 8, 2009 – Springwater Trail Room

NOTE: The Gresham Coalition of Neighborhood Associations is referred to in the minutes as either "Coalition" or "GCNA". Neighborhood Associations are referred to in the minutes as either "NA or NA's".